

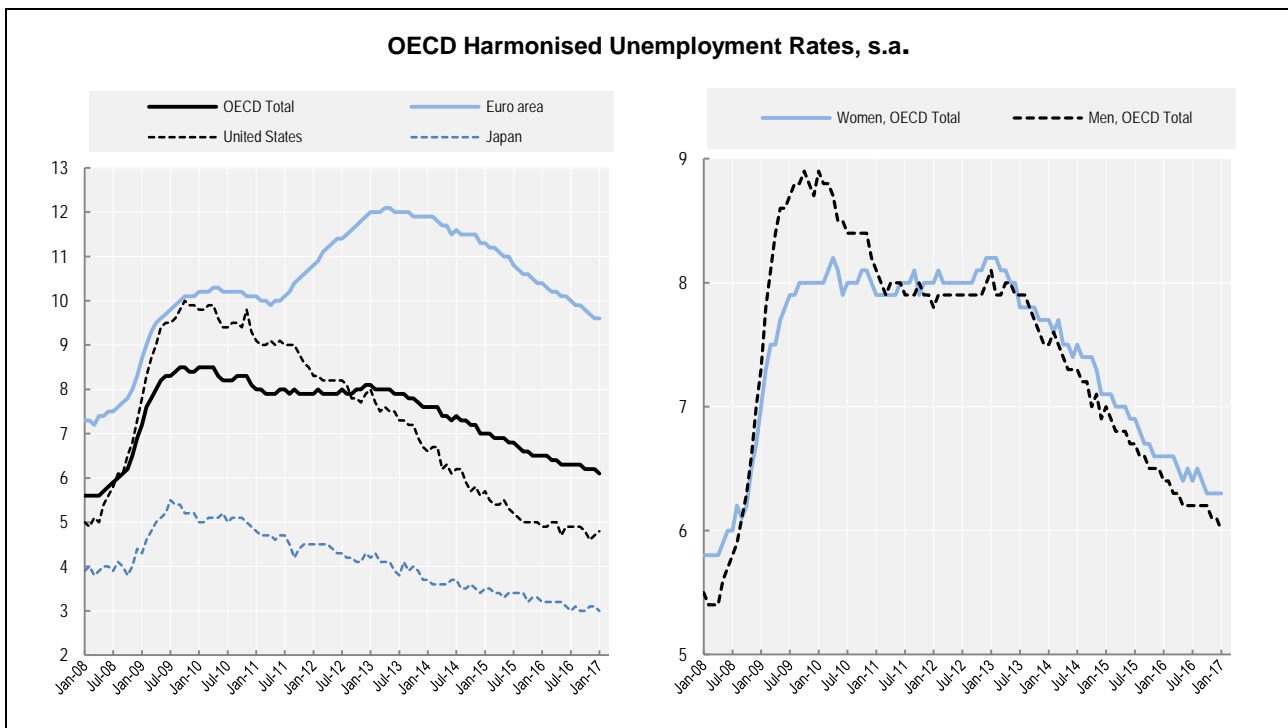
OECD unemployment rate down to 6.1% in January 2017

The **OECD** unemployment rate fell by 0.1 percentage point to 6.1% in January 2017 after two consecutive months of stability. Across the **OECD** area, 38.3 million people were unemployed, 5.7 million more than in April 2008, before the crisis.

The unemployment rate was stable in the **euro area** in January (at 9.6%) with unchanged rates in about half of the countries, and declined by 0.1 percentage point in the **European Union** (to 8.1%). A 0.2 percentage point decrease was recorded in **Ireland** (to 6.7%, the eighth consecutive monthly decline), **Luxembourg** (to 6.1%), the **Slovak Republic** (to 8.6%, having declined every month for more than one year) and **Spain** (to 18.2%, with almost continuous declines since the end of 2013).

Outside Europe, the unemployment rate increased in January by 0.1 percentage point in the **United States** (to 4.8%), while it fell by the same percentage point in **Canada** (to 6.8%), **Japan** (to 3.0%) and **Mexico** (to 3.6%).

Since the peak recorded in early 2013, the **OECD** unemployment rates for both **men** and **women** have declined at a similar pace. In January 2017, the **OECD** unemployment rate for **women** (at 6.3%) was 0.3 percentage point higher than that for **men** (at 6.0%), but with significant differences across countries. In the **euro area**, the unemployment rate for **women** was 0.7 percentage point higher than that for **men**, while it was 0.4 percentage point lower in **Japan**; in the **United States**, both rates were at the same level.



Methodological Notes: <http://www.oecd.org/std/labourstatistics/44743407.pdf>

All rates and levels quoted are seasonally adjusted (s.a.).

New Labour Market Statistics: <http://stats.oecd.org/index.aspx?queryid=36324>

Country Note: The statistical data for Israel are supplied by and under the responsibility of the relevant Israeli authorities. The use of such data by the OECD is without prejudice to the status of the Golan Heights, East Jerusalem and Israeli settlements in the West Bank under the terms of international law.

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Table 1: OECD Unemployment Rates, s.a.
Percentage of active population

	2014	2015	2016	2016				2016					2017
				Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	
OECD - Total	7.4	6.8	6.3	6.5	6.3	6.3	6.2	6.3	6.3	6.2	6.2	6.2	6.1
Major Seven	6.4	5.8	5.5	5.6	5.5	5.4	5.4	5.5	5.5	5.4	5.3	5.3	5.3
European Union	10.2	9.4	8.6	8.8	8.6	8.5	8.3	8.5	8.4	8.3	8.3	8.2	8.1
Euro area	11.6	10.9	10.0	10.3	10.1	9.9	9.7	9.9	9.9	9.8	9.7	9.6	9.6
Australia	6.1	6.1	5.7	5.8	5.7	5.7	5.7	5.7	5.6	5.6	5.7	5.8	5.7
Austria	5.6	5.7	6.0	6.0	6.1	6.2	5.8	6.2	6.1	5.9	5.8	5.7	5.7
Belgium	8.5	8.5	8.0	8.2	8.3	7.8	7.6	7.9	7.6	7.6	7.6	7.7	7.7
Canada	6.9	6.9	7.0	7.2	6.9	7.0	6.9	7.0	7.0	7.0	6.8	6.9	6.8
Chile	6.4	6.2	6.5	6.3	6.6	6.5	6.5	6.5	6.4	6.5	6.5	6.6	
Czech Republic	6.1	5.1	4.0	4.2	4.0	4.0	3.6	3.9	3.9	3.7	3.6	3.5	3.4
Denmark	6.5	6.2	6.2	5.9	6.1	6.4	6.4	6.3	6.5	6.5	6.4	6.2	6.2
Estonia	7.4	6.2	6.8	6.3	6.7	7.4	6.7	7.7	7.2	7.1	6.7	6.2	
Finland	8.7	9.4	8.8	9.1	8.9	8.7	8.7	8.7	8.7	8.7	8.7	8.7	8.7
France	10.3	10.4	10.1	10.2	9.9	10.1	10.0	10.2	10.0	10.0	9.9	10.0	10.0
Germany	5.0	4.6	4.1	4.3	4.2	4.1	3.9	4.1	4.1	4.0	3.9	3.9	3.8
Greece	26.6	25.0		24.0	23.5	23.2		23.3	23.1	23.0	23.0		
Hungary	7.7	6.8	5.1	5.7	5.2	5.0	4.5	5.0	4.9	4.6	4.5	4.3	
Iceland	5.0	4.0	3.0	3.2	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0
Ireland	11.3	9.5	7.9	8.4	8.4	7.8	7.1	7.9	7.5	7.3	7.0	6.9	6.7
Israel	5.9	5.2	4.8	5.1	4.8	4.7	4.4	4.6	4.9	4.5	4.5	4.3	4.3
Italy	12.7	11.9	11.7	11.6	11.6	11.6	11.8	11.5	11.8	11.7	11.9	11.9	11.9
Japan	3.6	3.4	3.1	3.2	3.2	3.0	3.1	3.1	3.0	3.0	3.1	3.1	3.0
Korea	3.5	3.6	3.7	3.8	3.7	3.8	3.6	3.8	3.9	3.8	3.6	3.5	3.6
Latvia	10.9	9.9	9.6	9.8	9.5	9.8	9.5	9.8	9.6	9.4	9.4	9.6	9.7
Luxembourg	6.1	6.5	6.3	6.4	6.3	6.2	6.2	6.2	6.3	6.2	6.2	6.3	6.1
Mexico	4.8	4.4	3.9	4.1	4.0	3.8	3.7	3.7	3.9	3.6	3.6	3.7	3.6
Netherlands	7.4	6.9	6.0	6.5	6.3	5.8	5.5	5.8	5.7	5.6	5.6	5.4	5.3
New Zealand	5.4	5.4	5.1	5.2	5.0	4.9	5.2						
Norway	3.5	4.4	4.7	4.7	4.7	4.9	4.6	4.9	4.8	4.7	4.7	4.4	
Poland	9.0	7.5	6.2	6.5	6.3	6.1	5.7	6.2	6.0	5.9	5.7	5.5	5.4
Portugal	14.1	12.7	11.2	12.1	11.3	10.9	10.4	10.9	10.9	10.6	10.5	10.2	10.2
Slovak Republic	13.2	11.5	9.6	10.2	9.9	9.5	9.0	9.5	9.4	9.2	8.9	8.8	8.6
Slovenia	9.7	9.0	7.9	8.3	8.0	7.8	7.6	7.8	7.7	7.6	7.6	7.5	7.5
Spain	24.5	22.1	19.6	20.5	20.1	19.3	18.7	19.3	19.1	18.9	18.7	18.4	18.2
Sweden	7.9	7.4	7.0	7.1	6.8	7.0	6.9	7.2	6.7	6.9	6.9	6.9	6.8
Switzerland	4.5	4.5	4.6	5.1	4.3	4.8	4.3						
Turkey ⁽¹⁾	10.0	10.3		10.1	10.4	11.4		11.5	11.5	11.7	11.8		
United Kingdom	6.1	5.3		5.0	4.9	4.8		4.7	4.8	4.8	4.7		
United States	6.2	5.3	4.9	4.9	4.9	4.9	4.7	4.9	4.9	4.8	4.6	4.7	4.8

Note:

(1) Following the changes introduced in the Labour Force Survey for Turkey, data from January 2014 onwards are not comparable with previous data.

Table 2: Unemployment Rates by Gender, s.a.
Percentage of corresponding active population

	Women						Men					
	2016	2016		2016		2017	2016	2016		2016		2017
		Q3	Q4	Nov	Dec			Jan	Q3	Q4	Nov	
OECD - Total	6.4	6.4	6.3	6.3	6.3	6.3	6.2	6.2	6.1	6.1	6.1	6.0
Major Seven	5.3	5.3	5.2	5.2	5.2	5.3	5.6	5.6	5.5	5.4	5.5	5.4
European Union	8.8	8.7	8.4	8.4	8.4	8.4	8.4	8.3	8.1	8.1	8.0	7.9
Euro area	10.4	10.3	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	9.7	9.6	9.4	9.5	9.3	9.3
Australia	5.8	5.8	5.8	5.8	5.8	5.8	5.7	5.6	5.7	5.6	5.8	5.5
Austria	5.6	5.7	5.3	5.2	5.1	5.2	6.5	6.5	6.2	6.2	6.2	6.2
Belgium	7.8	7.6	7.4	7.5	7.5	7.6	8.1	8.0	7.8	7.8	7.8	7.8
Canada	6.2	6.2	6.2	6.1	6.4	6.2	7.7	7.7	7.4	7.4	7.3	7.3
Chile	7.0	7.1	7.0	7.0	6.8		6.1	6.1	6.3	6.3	6.4	
Czech Republic	4.7	4.7	4.2	4.3	4.1	4.1	3.4	3.4	3.1	3.1	3.0	2.8
Denmark	6.7	7.0	6.7	6.8	6.5	6.5	5.8	5.8	6.0	6.0	5.9	6.0
Estonia	6.1	6.9	6.4	6.1	6.4		7.4	7.9	7.0	7.2	6.1	
Finland	8.6	8.6	8.6	8.6	8.6	8.6	9.0	8.8	8.9	8.9	8.9	8.8
France	9.8	10.1	9.8	9.8	9.8	9.9	10.2	10.1	10.1	10.1	10.1	10.1
Germany	3.8	3.7	3.4	3.4	3.3	3.3	4.5	4.5	4.4	4.4	4.3	4.3
Greece		27.8		27.5				19.6		19.4		
Hungary	5.2	5.0	4.5	4.5	4.2		5.1	5.0	4.5	4.5	4.4	
Iceland	3.1	3.1	3.1	3.1	3.1	3.1	2.9	3.0	2.9	2.9	2.9	2.9
Ireland	6.5	6.5	6.2	6.2	6.2	6.0	9.1	9.0	7.8	7.8	7.5	7.3
Israel	4.9	4.9	4.6	4.6	4.4	4.5	4.7	4.6	4.3	4.4	4.2	4.2
Italy	12.8	12.8	13.0	13.0	13.3	13.3	10.9	10.8	11.0	11.2	10.9	10.9
Japan	2.8	2.7	2.7	2.8	2.7	2.7	3.3	3.3	3.3	3.2	3.4	3.1
Korea	3.6	3.7	3.7	3.7	3.6	3.6	3.8	3.9	3.5	3.5	3.4	3.6
Latvia	8.4	8.0	7.9	7.9	7.9	8.0	10.9	11.5	11.1	10.9	11.3	11.4
Luxembourg	6.7	6.7	6.6	6.5	6.6	6.5	5.9	5.9	5.9	5.9	6.0	5.8
Mexico	4.0	3.9	3.7	3.7	3.9	3.8	3.8	3.7	3.6	3.6	3.7	3.4
Netherlands	6.5	6.3	6.1	6.2	6.0	5.9	5.6	5.4	5.0	5.0	4.9	4.8
New Zealand	5.5	5.2	5.7				4.8	4.7	4.8			
Norway	4.0	4.2	4.0	4.0	3.8		5.4	5.5	5.2	5.3	5.0	
Poland	6.2	6.2	5.7	5.7	5.6	5.5	6.1	6.1	5.6	5.6	5.5	5.3
Portugal	11.2	11.1	10.5	10.5	10.3	10.5	11.1	10.7	10.4	10.5	10.0	9.9
Slovak Republic	10.8	10.5	9.8	9.8	9.6	9.4	8.7	8.7	8.2	8.2	8.1	7.9
Slovenia	8.6	8.4	8.2	8.2	8.1	8.0	7.3	7.2	7.0	7.0	6.9	6.9
Spain	21.4	21.1	20.3	20.3	20.0	19.9	18.1	17.8	17.3	17.3	17.0	16.8
Sweden	6.6	6.7	6.5	6.6	6.5	6.4	7.3	7.2	7.2	7.1	7.3	7.2
Switzerland	4.9	5.2	4.6				4.4	4.5	4.1			
Turkey ⁽¹⁾		14.3		14.8				10.1		10.4		
United Kingdom		4.6		4.6				4.9		4.9		
United States	4.8	4.8	4.6	4.5	4.6	4.8	4.9	5.0	4.9	4.8	4.8	4.8

Note:

(1) Following the changes introduced in the Labour Force Survey for Turkey, data from January 2014 onwards are not comparable with previous data. From this date, data by gender are OECD estimates.

Table 3: Unemployment Rates by Age, s.a.
Percentage of corresponding active population

	Youth (15-24)						Prime-age and Older Workers (25+)					
	2016	2016		2016		2017	2016	2016		2016		2017
		Q3	Q4	Nov	Dec			Jan	Q3	Q4	Nov	
OECD - Total	12.9	13.0	12.7	12.7	12.6	12.5	5.4	5.5	5.3	5.3	5.3	5.3
Major Seven	11.8	11.8	11.5	11.4	11.4	11.4	4.6	4.6	4.6	4.5	4.6	4.5
European Union	18.7	18.6	18.2	18.2	18.1	17.7	7.5	7.4	7.2	7.2	7.2	7.2
Euro area	21.0	20.7	20.4	20.5	20.3	20.0	9.0	8.9	8.7	8.7	8.6	8.6
Australia	12.7	12.9	13.1	13.7	13.1	12.3	4.3	4.2	4.2	4.1	4.3	4.3
Austria	11.2	11.5	10.4	10.2	10.2	10.5	5.3	5.4	5.1	5.1	5.0	5.0
Belgium	20.5	20.9	20.7	20.7	20.7		7.0	6.8	6.6	6.6	6.7	6.7
Canada	13.1	13.2	12.8	12.9	12.6	13.3	6.0	6.0	5.9	5.8	5.9	5.7
Chile	15.7	15.8	15.0	15.0	15.3		5.3	5.4	5.5	5.5	5.6	
Czech Republic	10.5	10.7	10.2	9.9	10.0	8.9	3.5	3.5	3.2	3.2	3.1	3.0
Denmark	12.0	12.3	12.9	13.1	12.9	12.5	5.1	5.2	5.1	5.1	5.0	5.1
Estonia	13.5	13.4	12.0	12.3	13.5		6.2	6.8	6.2	6.2	5.6	
Finland	20.0	20.3	20.2	20.2	20.2	20.3	7.3	7.1	7.2	7.2	7.2	7.1
France	24.6	25.2	23.7	23.6	23.5	23.6	8.5	8.5	8.5	8.5	8.6	8.6
Germany	7.0	6.9	6.7	6.7	6.6	6.5	3.8	3.8	3.6	3.6	3.6	3.5
Greece		44.3		45.7				22.0		21.7		
Hungary	12.9	12.5	11.9	12.0	11.5		4.5	4.3	3.9	3.9	3.7	
Iceland	6.5	6.6	6.5	6.5	6.6	6.6	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.3
Ireland	17.2	17.4	16.2	16.1	15.9	15.1	7.0	6.9	6.1	6.1	6.0	5.9
Israel	8.6	10.2	7.9	7.7	6.8	6.7	4.1	4.1	4.0	4.0	3.9	3.9
Italy	37.8	37.5	38.9	39.7	39.2	37.9		10.0				
Japan	5.2	5.1	4.8	4.5	4.8	4.4	2.9	2.9	2.9	2.9	2.9	2.8
Korea	10.7	11.1	9.7	9.6	8.7	8.4	3.2	3.3	3.2	3.2	3.1	3.2
Latvia	17.2	17.9	17.2	17.0	17.5	19.0	9.0	9.1	8.9	8.8	9.0	9.0
Luxembourg	20.0	20.0	20.2	19.9	20.6	19.7	5.3	5.2	5.2	5.2	5.2	5.1
Mexico	7.7	7.4	7.3	7.3	7.5	7.2	3.1	3.0	2.9	2.8	2.9	2.8
Netherlands	10.8	10.6	10.3	10.3	10.2	9.8	5.1	5.0	4.6	4.7	4.5	4.5
New Zealand	13.2	13.1	13.8				3.6	3.4	3.6			
Norway	10.9	10.7	10.6	10.8	10.3		3.8	4.0	3.7	3.8	3.5	
Poland	17.6	18.4	16.0	15.8	15.1	14.3	5.2	5.1	4.8	4.8	4.7	4.6
Portugal	28.2	27.4	26.9	27.0	26.2	25.7	9.9	9.6	9.1	9.2	8.9	9.0
Slovak Republic	22.3	21.5	20.8	20.8	20.4	20.1	8.6	8.6	8.0	8.0	7.8	7.7
Slovenia	15.9	15.4	16.9	16.9	16.9		7.3	7.2	6.9	6.9	6.8	6.7
Spain	44.5	43.1	43.1	43.4	42.8	42.2	17.9	17.7	17.0	17.0	16.8	16.6
Sweden	18.8	19.0	18.5	17.8	19.2	18.0	5.3	5.4	5.3	5.4	5.3	5.3
Switzerland	8.4	11.0	7.5				4.1	3.9	3.9			
Turkey ⁽¹⁾		20.1		21.2				9.7		9.9		
United Kingdom		12.9		12.4				3.5		3.6		
United States	10.4	10.4	10.2	10.1	10.0	10.1	4.0	4.1	3.9	3.8	3.9	4.0

Note:

(1) Following the changes introduced in the Labour Force Survey for Turkey, data from January 2014 onwards are not comparable with previous data.

Table 4: Unemployment Levels, s.a.
Thousands of persons

	2015	2016	2016			2016			2017
			Q2	Q3	Q4	Oct	Nov	Dec	
OECD - Total	41,605	39,291	39,306	39,384	38,604	38,890	38,441	38,483	38,310
Major Seven	21,630	20,544	20,505	20,581	20,240	20,411	20,077	20,233	20,226
European Union	22,892	20,908	21,132	20,747	20,220	20,361	20,235	20,065	19,969
Euro area	17,451	16,229	16,387	16,130	15,779	15,860	15,802	15,676	15,620
Australia	760	726	726	718	724	707	725	740	720
Austria	252	270	271	276	258	264	258	253	256
Belgium	422	394	409	388	376	375	376	377	378
Canada	1,331	1,361	1,348	1,357	1,344	1,365	1,326	1,342	1,324
Chile	532	563	571	570	570	567	570	575	
Czech Republic	268	212	216	212	194	200	195	188	183
Denmark	189	188	187	195	193	198	194	186	184
Estonia	42	47	47	52	46	49	46	43	
Finland	252	237	240	235	235	235	235	235	234
France	3,054	2,966	2,928	2,980	2,941	2,949	2,928	2,947	2,961
Germany	1,950	1,775	1,815	1,787	1,710	1,740	1,709	1,682	1,661
Greece	1,197		1,131	1,120		1,102	1,100		
Hungary	308	234	238	228	207	213	209	198	
Iceland	8	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
Ireland	204	173	182	172	155	159	154	152	148
Israel	202	188	188	186	175	178	178	170	170
Italy	3,033	3,009	2,983	2,997	3,076	3,036	3,097	3,095	3,097
Japan	2,219	2,080	2,103	2,043	2,037	2,000	2,040	2,070	1,980
Korea	976	1,012	999	1,035	989	1,027	987	954	982
Latvia	98	95	95	97	93	92	92	94	96
Luxembourg	18	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	17
Mexico	2,306	2,085	2,117	2,049	1,973	1,943	1,950	2,026	1,937
Netherlands	614	539	561	524	494	502	499	482	480
New Zealand	134	133	131	129	139				
Norway	121	132	131	136	128	132	130	122	
Poland	1,304	1,063	1,089	1,057	976	1,006	972	949	930
Portugal	648	572	576	557	535	545	538	521	522
Slovak Republic	314	266	274	262	247	252	246	242	238
Slovenia	90	78	80	76	74	74	74	73	72
Spain	5,056	4,481	4,592	4,412	4,241	4,291	4,251	4,181	4,129
Sweden	387	366	360	367	366	365	364	368	364
Switzerland	219	227	208	237	214				
Turkey ⁽¹⁾	3,054		3,160	3,488		3,626	3,646		
United Kingdom	1,747		1,607	1,582		1,581	1,568		
United States	8,296	7,751	7,720	7,835	7,559	7,740	7,409	7,529	7,635

Note:

(1) Following the changes introduced in the Labour Force Survey for Turkey, data from January 2014 onwards are not comparable with previous data.